REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed March 21, 2006. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and pending claims are respectfully requested.

I.   Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-4 and 6-16 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Hsieh, et al. ("Hsieh," U.S. Pub. No. 2002/0158900). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

It is axiomatic that "[a]nticipation requires the disclosure in a single prior art reference of each element of the claim under consideration." *W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc. v. Garlock, Inc.*, 721 F.2d 1540, 1554, 220 U.S.P.Q. 303, 313 (Fed. Cir. 1983). Therefore, every claimed feature of the claimed invention must be represented in the applied reference to constitute a proper rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the present case, not every feature of the claimed invention is represented in the Hsieh reference. Applicant discusses the Hsieh reference and Applicant's claims in the following.

Applicant's independent claims 1, 7, and 12 provide as follows (emphasis added):

1.   A method for providing a client on a remote client network access to a resource on a local network, the method comprising:
providing a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator with which client connectivity with the resource on the local network can be enabled, the GUI being configured such that the process used by the operator to facilitate connectivity using the GUI is the same regardless of a configuration of the remote client network;

-7-

receiving commands of the operator with the GUI that convey the identity of the client and the resource to be accessed by the client;

automatically determining the client network configuration; and

automatically establishing client connectivity to the resource so as to provide the client on the remote client network access to the resource on the local network.

7.   A system for providing a client on a remote client network access to a resource on a local network, the system comprising:

means for providing a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator with which client connectivity with the resource on the local network can be enabled, the GUI being configured such that the process used by the operator to facilitate connectivity using the GUI is the same regardless of a configuration of the remote network;

means for receiving commands of the operator with the GUI that convey the identity of the client and the resource to be accessed by the client;

means for automatically determining the client network configuration; and

means for automatically establishing client connectivity to the resource so as to provide the client on the remote client network access to the resource on the local network.

12.   A computer readable medium comprising a program configured to provide a client on a remote client network access to a resource on a local network, the program comprising:

logic configured to provide a graphical user interface (GUI) to an operator with which client connectivity to the resource on the local network is enabled, the GUI being configured such that the process used by the operator to facilitate connectivity using the GUI is the same regardless of a configuration of the remote client network;

-8-

logic configured to receive commands of the operator with the GUI that convey the identity of the client and the resource to be accessed by the client;

logic configured to automatically determine the client network configuration; and

logic configured to automatically establish client connectivity to the resource so as to provide the client on the remote client network access to the resource on the local network.

In the Office Action, it is argued that Hsieh teaches automatically determining a client network configuration, as well as means and logic that make such a determination. In particular, it is argued that paragraphs 0012, 0013, and 0028 teach such automatic determining. Applicant respectfully disagrees.

Paragraphs 0012, 0013, and 0028 of the Hsieh disclosure provide as follows:

According to one exemplary embodiment, a graphical user interface (GUI) according to the present invention includes a first user interface element actuable to access a first portion of said graphical user interface, which first portion displays information associated with a plurality of virtual local area networks (VLANs). The GUI provides various VLAN information and the ability for the user to modify some of this information, which modifications result in changes to a data model used to configure, monitor and operate the corresponding customer network infrastructures.

According to another exemplary embodiment of the present invention, a method of using such graphical user interfaces to, for example, rapidly allocate IP address space to selected VLANs is described . . .

To facilitate an understanding of the principles of the present invention, it is described hereinafter with reference to its application in the provisioning of devices that support web site operations, such as servers, load balancers, firewalls, and the

-9-

like. Further in this regard, such description is provided in the context of a data center, which typically accommodates the infrastructure to support a large number of different web sites, each of which may have a different configuration for its infrastructure. It will be appreciated, however, that the implementation of the invention that is described hereinafter is merely exemplary, and that the invention can find practical application in any environment where the automated provisioning of computer resources is desirable. Thus, for example, the principles which underlie the invention can be employed to provision computing devices in the networks of an enterprise, or in any other situation in which there are a sufficient number of computing devices to realize the benefits of automated provisioning.

Hsieh, paragraphs 0012, 0013, and 0028.

As can be appreciated from the above paragraphs, although Hsieh discusses that *web sites* hosted by a service may each have "a different configuration for its infrastructure," Hsieh does not talk about determining a configuration of a client's network, i.e., a remote network. Instead, Hsieh merely indicates that the various devices of the service's data center may have various configurations. Hsieh does not discuss connectivity between that data center and a *client's* network, or determination of that network's configuration. Moreover, Hsieh's disclosure is focused upon the nature of the configuration of the data center, not the client's network configuration.

In view of at least the above, Hsieh cannot be said to anticipate each limitation of independent claims 1, 7, or 12. Accordingly, those claims, and their dependents, are allowable over the Hsieh reference, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections.

-10-

II.   Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 5, 17, and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Hsieh* in view of *McNally, et al.* ("McNally," U.S. Pat. No. 6,659,448). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Regarding dependent claim 5, Applicant submits that claim 5 is allowable over Hsieh and McNally at least for the same reasons that claim 1 is allowable over Hsieh. In view of that, Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection of claim 5 be withdrawn.

Turning to independent claim 17, Applicant claims (emphasis added):

> 17.   A graphical user interface (GUI) that facilitates provision of access to a device on a remote network to a resource on a different network, the GUI comprising:
>
> a first window that is used to create new virtual local area networks (VLANs) and that identifies VLANs that have already been created; and
>
> a second window that identifies resources on a local network that are available for use by clients on remote client networks;
>
> wherein new VLANs can be created by dragging a resource from the second window to a client identified in the first window and dropping the resource on the identified client and *wherein such dragging and dropping causes automatic determination of a remote client network configuration.*
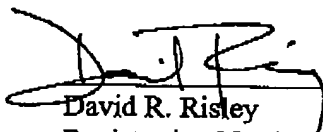
Regarding claim 17, neither Hsieh nor McNally teaches or suggests that a dragging and dropping action within a GUI "causes automatic determination of a remote client network configuration". Applicant refers to the discussion of claims 1, 7, and 12 in relation to the Hsieh reference above and notes that it has not been argued that McNally teaches or suggests automatic configuration determination.

-11-

In view of at least the above, claim 17, and claims 18 and 19 which depend therefrom, are allowable over Hsieh and McNally, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

-12-

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that Applicant's pending claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,

David R. Risley
Registration No. 39,345

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on

6-21-06

Mary M. Coper

Signature

-13-